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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No: 09/517681

Filed: March 2, 2000

Attorney Docket No: DP-300478

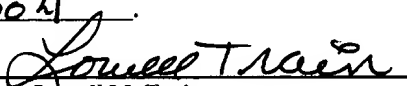
Examiner: Williams, J.L.

APPLICANT: David E. Nelson

Group Art Unit: 2879

TITLE: Plasma Reactor Design For Treating  
Auto Emissions – Curable And Low Cost

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS: Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on SEPT. 9, 2004.

  
Lowell M. Train

MS: Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner For Patents  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

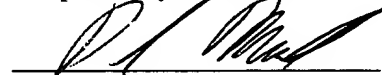
Dear Sir:

This is Applicant's response to the Office Action mailed August 9, 2004 for the above-identified application.

The Office Action requires restriction between claims 1-26 (group I) drawn to a non-thermal plasma reactor and claims 27-41 (group II) drawn to a method of making a non-thermal plasma reactor. Applicant provisionally elects to prosecute claims 1-26 (group I), and respectfully traverses the restriction requirement.

The Office Action urges that the claims of groups I and II are distinct because the claimed product can be made by another and materially different process, in the present case allowing the conductive coating layer and barrier coating layer to dry and then fired simultaneously versus firing the two layers separately. Applicant points out, however, that claim 27 is silent as to the timing of any firing steps. Rather, claim 27 simply calls for "selectively coating selected channels with a conductive material to form conductive channels, and applying a barrier coating to said conductive channels. As the basis for the allegation of distinctness urged by the Office Action, i.e., simultaneous versus separate firing, is not even present in the independent method claim 27, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no basis for a finding of distinctiveness. In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

Respectfully Submitted:



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PLM:lt